

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 JIDDA 06357 311538Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
-----045770 311545Z /43

O 311515Z AUG 78  
FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 3184  
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM  
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

S E C R E T JIDDA 6357

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PEPR, SA  
SUBJ: LEBANON SITUATION

REF: STATE 221464

1. REFTTEL ARRIVED IN JIDDA EARLY ON MORNING THURSDAY, AUGUST 31. WE BEGAN IMMEDIATELY AN ATTEMPT TO LOCATE FOREIGN MINISTER, HRH PRINCE SAUD. TASK IS DIFFICULT ENOUGH ON WEEKENDS (THURSDAY AND FRIDAY IN SAUDI ARABIA), BUT IT WAS MADE DOUBLY DIFFICULT BY THE FACT THAT ALL GOVERNMENT OFFICES HAVE BEEN CLOSED SINCE AUGUST 29 IN ANTICIPATION OF ID-AL-FITR HOLIDAY ON CLOSE OF RAMADAN. WE COULD NOT RAISE ANYONE AT FOREIGN

SECRET

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PAGE 02 JIDDA 06357 311538Z

MINISTRY OFFICES IN JIDDA, RIYADH OR TAIF. WE FINALLY LOCATED FOREIGN MINISTER'S CHIEF ASSISTANT IN RIYADH, BUT WERE TOLD WHEN WE TELEPHONED THAT HE WAS SLEEPING AND COULD NOT BE DISTURBED UNTIL 4 P.M.

2. HOWEVER, WE WERE FORTUNATE ENOUGH TO GET TO AMBASSADOR TO USA ALI ALIREZA WHO IS IN JIDDA ON LEAVE. AFTER DIS-

CUSSION OF LEBANESE SITUATION, AMBASSADOR WEST GAVE HIM A COPY OF TALKING POINTS FROM REFTEL. AMBASSADOR ALIREZA PROMISED TO GET THE MESSAGE TO PRINCE SAUD AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, ALTHOUGH HE DOUBTED IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO REACH HIM BEFORE SUNDOWN AND THE BREAKING OF THE FAST -- ABOUT 2130 HOURS LOCAL TODAY. HE SAID HE WOULD MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO GET US A RESPONSE FROM PRINCE SAUD.

3. AMBASSADOR ALSO PASSED COPY OF TALKING POINTS TO PRINCE TURKI BIN FAISAL AT A LATE AFTERNOON MEETING AUGUST 31. HE TOO PROMISED TO GET THE POINTS TO PRINCE SAUD DURING THE COURSE OF THE EVENING. IN COMMENTING ON THE FIFTH POINT OF PARA 3 OF REFTEL, TURKI SAID THAT PHALANGISTS DID NOT REPRESENT ALL CHRISTIANS AND THAT AT LEAST HALF OF THE MARONITES SUPPORTED THE ADF. HE SAID THAT CHIEF DIFFICULTY NOW STEMMED FROM ISRAELI ENCOURAGEMENT OF THE PHALANGISTS TO PROVOKE SYRIANS IN ORDER TO UPSET CAMP DAVID TALKS. HE FURTHER COMMENTED THAT ISRAELIS THEMSELVES HAD NOT HESITATED TO INVADE LEBANON AND CREATE TERROR BY ENGAGING IN INDISCRIMINATE KILLING OF INNOCENT CIVILIANS, INCLUDING WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

WEST

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Concepts:** DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION  
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**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**Review Markings:**  
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